



CITY OF EDMONDS

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POLICE DEPARTMENT • AN ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

DAVE EARLING

MAYOR

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE #1

Date: March 7, 2014

Contact: Sergeant Mark Marsh

Edmonds Police Department

Phone: (425) 771-0284

The Edmonds Police Department K9 Hobbs will be receiving a ballistic vest/s thanks to a nationwide GROUPON EVENT that has raised over \$335,000.00. K9 Hobbs will be receiving his vest soon with K9 Kira applying for one in the near future. Ofc. Jason Robinson, K9 Hobbs' partner stated about the Vested Interest donation "Very impressive campaign for a great cause".

The following information is forwarded by Vested Interest in K9 Inc.

The "Occasions " campaign for Groupon Grassroots to outfit police K9's with bullet and stab protective vests ran February 15th through March 5th at 11:59pm Eastern Standard Time. Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. was the nationwide non-profit organization and charity partner selected by Groupon Grassroots to participate. The online \$10 donation suggested interested persons purchase a GROUPON (a tax deductible donation) through the secure website where all funds were allocated to purchase ballistic vests for our four-legged crime fighters who put their lives on the line for the community and their partner.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. a 501c (3) organization is still accepting donations through their website: www.vik9s.org and via mail P.O. Box 9East Taunton, MA02718.

In 2013 Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. partnered with Groupon and was named as one of “The Best of 2013” campaigns. The nonprofit raised \$155, 537.33 in just one week, which provide ballistic vests for 163 law enforcement dogs in 30 states. There are an estimated 30,000 police dogs throughout the United States.

ABOUT VESTED INTEREST IN K9S, INC.

Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. is a 501c (3) charity located in East Taunton, MA. Whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the United States. Each vest costs \$950.00 and has a 5 year warranty. The nonprofit was established in 2009 to assist law enforcement agencies with this potentially lifesaving body armor for their four legged K9 Officers. Through private and corporate sponsorships, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. provided 585 law enforcement dogs in 39 states with protective vests since 2009.

The organization orders the U.S. made vests exclusively from distributor Regency Police Supply in Hyannis, MA. Who also does the custom embroidery on the body armor.

New K9 graduates as well as K9's with expired vests are eligible to participate. The program is open to law enforcement dogs who are US employed, certified and at least 19 months of age.

For more information or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please call 508-824-6978. Tax deductible donations and event listings are via the website: www.vik9s.org.

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Justine Long

Public Relations Coordinator
252-347-6035

www.vik9s.org

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DATE: March 7, 2014

PREPARED BY: Sergeant Mark Marsh

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Incorporated August 11, 1890
Sister City - Hekinan, Japan